

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 and 23 are amended. Claims 45 - 48 are new. Claims 15 - 17, 19 - 24, 26, 33, 36, and 38 - 48 are pending.

In the Office Action mailed August 16, 2007, Claims 15 - 17, 19 - 24, 26, 38 and 42 - 43 were rejected as unpatentable over U.S. 2004/0093042 (Altshuler et al.) in view of U.S. 2004/0173780 (Altshuler et al.). Claims 33 and 36 were rejected as being unpatentable over U.S. 2004/0093042 (Altshuler et al.) in view of U.S. 2004/0173780 (Altshuler et al.) and further in view of U.S. 6,120,497 (Anderson et al). Claim 40 was rejected as unpatentable over US 2004/0093042 (Altshuler et al.) in view of U.S. 2004/0173780 (Altshuler et al.) and U.S. 5,885,274 (Fullmer). Claim 41 was rejected as unpatentable over U.S. 2004/0093042 (Altshuler et al.) in view of U.S. 2004/0173780 (Altshuler et al.) and U.S. Application 2005/017850 (Vaynberg).

The Office Action, prior actions, and cited prior art have been studied in light of the relevant case law. On this basis, Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are patentably distinct from the cited prior art.

Independent Claims 1 and 23, as amended, include the step of providing a halogen lamp including a filament positioned within a tube having a tube diameter, at least a portion of the filament formed into a coil having a coil diameter, the ratio of the tube diameter to the coil diameter being less than about 10:1. New dependent claims 45 - 49 further define the ratio as being about 5:1 or less or about 10:6 or less. As discussed in the specification, a lamp of these proportions is beneficial over previously available lamps in that it allows for increased optical power in the treatment exposure area. The cited references appear to lack any teaching of this feature, nor do they render the amended claims obvious.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all claims are allowable over the cited references. Early reconsideration and allowance of the claims is therefore respectfully requested

Respectfully submitted,

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